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WOLFEBALE LIVING.

In the northwest the Chicago Inter-Ocean has carried the champion health-et for years, says the St. Louis Times, and it is now trying to secure the championship of the world. We believe it will succeed. If daily persistence in the manufacture of falsehoods out of whole cloth will win, the Inter-Ocean bids fair to become the chief villager of the newspaper world. It is far on the way to the goal already.

Its latest effort, consisting in the manufacture of a letter, thinly purporting to have come from an ex-confederate soldier in Alabama, "It is dated from Alabama." This letter proceeds to state that for the slightest quarrel—between husband and wife for instance—negro men and women are arrested, tried, a heavy penalty imposed, and thereupon their services are sold to pay the fines and costs. "The Lee county most of these negroes are sold to Senator John B. Gordon, of Georgia, who has a plantation in Clay county, and they are sent to work on the fine and costs about \$3 or \$4 a week. While engaged in working out their fines they are shackled, whipped and otherwise ill-treated as if actually the slaves of the senator."

The "writer" of the letter adds, for the purpose of showing that a complete reign of terror exists in Alabama:

Some few months since, in talking to a prominent democratic merchant (a man of wealth and influence, he remarked to me the republic party can never vote the necessary vote, and that only an inconsiderable portion of them would vote at all. I asked the question "Why?" He said: "Damn them; they will be afraid to vote. We have the power now, and we intend to hang and put enough of them in the penitentiary to scare the balance of them from ever voting any more." Since that time I am fully convinced that the republic party in Alabama are their pants, and they are being carried as rapidly as possible.

These extracts are sufficient to show the character of the letter, which is fully endorsed in an editorial that pronounces it a "graphic picture" of the state of affairs in Alabama. To give plausibility to the lies contained in the statement is, boldly made that its author is a "native southerner, and a gentleman whose name alone would carry conviction of the truthfulness of his statements to all." We hope the Inter-Ocean will get permission to publish his name. It will not be difficult to do, as he has a desk in the Inter-Ocean office and is doubtless a member of the Inter-Ocean staff. No Alabama would write such ridiculous lies, if he desired to lie at all.

It is needless to add that Gen. Gordon is not engaged in planting in Clay or in any other county of Alabama. He may have in his employ a couple of colored men at his home near this city, but that is the limit of his effort "to re-enslave the negro." Those two negroes are about the freest negroes in all the world, get good wages, and are neither shackled, whipped nor otherwise ill-treated, and would, if they had the courage, lick the man who said they were.

Put such stories as the Inter-Ocean daily prints with Morton's speeches, and you have the material upon which radicalism feeds. It is through such general ignorance that it hopes to secure another four years of power and plunder. Our readers who do not daily see republican journals published in the north can have but a faint idea of the desperation and infamy that characterize this death struggle of the party in power. It hesitates at nothing, and the Inter-Ocean and Hot Springs Morton are its prophets.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONVENTION.

Gov. Chamberlain's double-dealing in regard to the Hamburg tragedy put him out of consideration in the Columbia convention, and the question that remained related to a postponement of action until after the course of the radicals was known. The convention was divided on this question, a careful count, says the correspondent of the Charleston News and Courier, showing eighty for an immediate nomination and about sixty-five for postponement.

The convention wisely decided, we think, to put a straight-out ticket in the field at once. The nomination of Wade Hampton, the gallant cavalry leader and popular citizen, means a spirited and aggressive campaign—a campaign that imperatively calls for the last vote and last ounce of legitimate influence that conservatism can muster in the state. The organization of the party should now be completed, and the radical enemies immediately begun. The enthusiasm that greeted the nomination at Columbia indicates that the state can be redeemed; but to do it, the lethargy that has prevailed in former elections must be replaced by activity, founded on hope. We believe our readers in the upper part of the state can be relied on to do their part, and the low country should now wake up to the demands of the hour. If the state is ever to be put on the right basis, now is the time.

Prudence as well as energy is needed. The recent order of Secretary Cameron indicates that the administration would be glad to find a pretext for military interference. The state authorities have been detected in the act of distributing arms to negroes, in boxes labeled "agricultural implements." Such a box intended for Laurens county was seized this week at Newberry. It contained sixteen Remington guns and a quantity of cartridges. These facts proved the necessity of caution. The people of South Carolina should, in this canvass, be as wise as serpents, and as indolent as bees. They have much to contend with, but they have a beautiful and noble state to contend for. She expects every man to do his whole duty in this crisis—to work first, and wait afterwards. The political life should not contain a single drone this year, and the whole party should cordially and heartily unite in an aggressive canvass that will result in a Waterloo to radicalism in the "Fraternal State."

AMONG the thirty-nine in the house who wisely voted on the last day of the session against any increase of the army, we find the names of Messrs. Cook, Felton and Hartridge.

WORK OF THE SESSION.

It was good, in spite of persistent opposition from the other side of the capital, from the other end of the avenue, and from the entrenched and powerful camps of corruptionists generally. It checked, and even absolutely stopped, the plunderers in their work of depleting the treasury, and few of them will have the hardihood to resume it during the vacation, for fear of wrath to come. It investigated Bakpan out of the cabinet, Blaine out of his presidential aspirations, and the republicans party out of the support of many honest and intelligent men. It did all this under disadvantages that we hope will not dwarf the work of the forty-fifth congress. It did well under the circumstances, and the democratic party need not be ashamed of its record.

Let us see what it actually saved to the country. We will take the figures from the New York Times, an uncompromising republican organ:

Estimated. Voted. Military academy, \$200,000. \$175,000. Penitentiary, \$200,000. \$175,000. Post office, \$200,000. \$175,000. Fortifications, \$200,000. \$175,000. Rivers and harbors, \$200,000. \$175,000. Navy, \$200,000. \$175,000. Army, \$200,000. \$175,000. Total, \$1,725,000. \$1,475,000.

Last year the same year, \$2,000,000. The saving would have been \$1,500,000 more if the senate had not compelled compromises in the direction of extravagance. Mr. Randall is confident that the senate will next year concur with the house in the line of economy, and the year after he believes will witness a still further reduction of ten millions, because a chief magistrate will then be acting in harmony with the purpose of the present house.

The figures in the table we have given do not represent the difference between what the house compelled the administration to accept and what the estimates of the departments call for. We give that also:

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Showing a saving of over fifty-five millions below the estimates of the administration, and over twenty-nine millions below the amount appropriated by the last congress. In the face of these immense reductions it will hardly do to say that the house has "done nothing." Considering the inexperience of its members, and the difficulties in the way of retrenchment and reform, it did remarkably well.

It had to face deadlocks from the senate and threats from the executive, but still it succeeded in saving nearly thirty millions. This is a solid fact that the country will appreciate. But the work of retrenchment has just commenced, and the men to carry it on are the very men who have labored with rare patience in the session that has just come to an end. A grateful country should reward them.

A Marriage in the Surf. Providence Journal.

Last week an elderly Baltimore gentleman, proud of his wealth, discovered that his daughter had dared to love a young man far below her in the estimation of society. A week later the Baltimore morning papers called for the season, and the names of the father and daughter soon appeared on the register of one of the hotels at Narragansett pier. The young man was a companion, outwardly treated as an equal, but in reality a paid spy over the young lady's actions and correspondence. But before a fortnight had elapsed the young lover of Baltimore had received one morning a big envelope containing a dainty little note which filled him with joy unspeakable. He had a friend who was a clergyman, and before the sun set that night the two had a long, earnest conference, which resulted next morning in the departure of the twin for Narragansett pier.

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